

Please enter the following amendments and remarks:

### **STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-20 are pending in the Application.

Claim 1 has been canceled in its entirety, without prejudice, and subject to the right to prosecute claim 1, or the subject matter thereof, in this or a subsequent application.

Claims 2, 6-8, and 10-20 have been amended herein.

Reconsideration of the present Application is respectfully requested.

### **REMARKS**

Applicant notes, with appreciation, that Claims 2-18 and 20 include patentable subject matter. With respect to Claim 1, without acquiescing to the rejections asserted, or to the Examiner's characterizations of Claim 1, or to the cited references, or to Applicant's prior Remarks, and subject to Applicant's right to seek further prosecution of Claim 1 in this or subsequent applications, and solely for purposes of expediting prosecution in the present application, Applicant has herein canceled Claim 1, without prejudice.

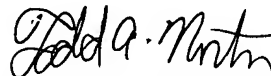
Claims 2, 15, 18 and 20 have been amended to be in independent form in accordance with the examiner comments. Claim 19 has been amended to depend from claim 18 and is now believed to be allowable. The claims have also been

amended to address the language objections raised by the examiner under 35 USC 112. No new matter has been added and claims 2-20 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

**Conclusion**

Applicant respectfully requests early and favorable action with regard to the present Application and a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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